

Fort Sheridan Bakery
(Building No. 34)
West side of Lyster Rd.
Fort Sheridan
Lake County
Illinois

HABS No. IL-1113-8

HABS
ILL,
49-FTSH,
1/8-

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Department of Interior
Washington, D.C. 20243

FORT SHERIDAN, BAKERY
(Building No. 34)

FORT SHERIDAN HISTORIC DISTRICT

HABS
ILL,
49-FTSH,
1/8-

Location: West side of Lyster Road between Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters (Building no. 102) on the south and the Ordnance Storehouse (Building no. 59) on the north, Fort Sheridan, Lake County, Illinois.

USGS Highland Park Quadrangle, Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: 16.432770.4673660.

Present Owner and Occupant: United States Army.

Present Use: Daycare nursery.

Significance: Important both as a surviving example of a bakery on a late nineteenth century military post and as a building designed by the architectural firm of Holabird and Roche. It makes a notable addition to the comprehensiveness of the surviving building stock at Fort Sheridan. The building served as the Bakery from its construction in 1890 until 1940. It was utilized as a non-commissioned officers' club from 1940 until 1956 and as the library from 1956 until 1967 when it became a daycare nursery.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

1. Date of erection: 1890.
2. Architect: Holabird and Roche, Chicago.
3. Original and subsequent owners: U.S. Army from date of construction to the present.
4. Contractor: Williams and Company. Completed by Reichelt and Company, Chicago.
5. Original plan and construction: A square, single story building constructed of buff-cream brick with a gable roof

that was covered with tin. The ridge of the roof runs east-west and the entrance is in the east gable end. The original ovens were brick.

6. Additions and alterations: Two yellow-orange brick additions were constructed in 1919, one to the side and one at the rear. Two Marshall ovens were installed in 1919 and 1920 replacing the original brick ovens. In 1926 the roof and skylight were replaced. In 1940 all bakery equipment was removed and the interior remodeled to serve as a non-commissioned officers' club. It was remodeled again in 1967 for use as a nursery. At some time the front porch was enclosed and the doors and windows modified.

B. Sources of Information:

1. Original Architectural Drawings:

Holabird and Root, 300 West Adams Street, Chicago, Illinois 60606. Plans and elevations, n.d. Drawings are water damaged.

2. Old Views:

Mackern, H.G. Fort Sheridan: At Attention and Rest, Chicago, H.G. Mackern, 1897.

Views of Fort Sheridan, Record Group 92, Audio Visual Archives, National Archives and Records Service, Washington, D.C. Reference no. 92-F-61A-19.

3. Bibliography:

Papers Relating to Fort Sheridan. Office of the Quartermaster General, Consolidated Correspondence Files, 1784-1915 and Office of the Quartermaster General, Construction Division, Record Group 92. U.S. Army Continental Command, 6th Corps Area Records, Record Group 394, National Archives and Records Service, Washington, D.C.

Real Property Records, Directorate of Facilities Engineering, Fort Sheridan, Illinois.

Prepared by Sally Kress Tompkins
Architectural Historian
Historic American Buildings
Survey

June, 1979

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

1. Architectural Character: A plain, square utilitarian building with simple but attractive detail including raked parapets with terra cotta coping, wide decorative friezes, and arched windows. Its decorative detail reflects the Richardsonian Romanesque style popular at the time of its construction and is similar to that on the other Holabird and Roche buildings at Fort Sheridan.
2. Condition of fabric: Excellent.

B. Description of Exterior

1. Over-all dimensions: A square, one and one-half story building 51'6" by 51'6" with two wings; one on the north side and one on the rear. Each wing measures 10'6" by 41'. The facade is five bays across. A three bay porch across the facade measures 8' by 26'.
2. Foundations: Limestone rubble with a concrete water table.
3. Wall construction: Buff-cream brick laid in common bond, four rows of stretchers to one of headers.
4. Structural system: Brick bearing wall.
5. Porches: A three bay porch across the facade is supported by four free standing and two engaged brick piers, with modified stone capitals. A hipped roof of asphalt shingles covers the porch. At some time the porch was enclosed by a low brick wall, and wood panels, each having six lights, were installed between the piers.
6. Chimneys: One brick chimney at the rear of the building to the south of the roof ridge.
7. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: The original entrance from the front porch was removed when the porch was enclosed and a new front entrance cut through a rounded arched window south of the porch. The tympanum of the converted window has been infilled with yellow-orange brick. Entrances at the

front and rear of the side addition and into the rear addition have wood doors. All the woodwork is painted a peach color except the double doors into the rear addition which are unpainted.

- b. Windows: The windows on the facade and south side have rounded gauged brick arches and concrete sills. The frames are painted a peach color. Some have been partially infilled either with brick or glass brick. In the glass brick windows a central louvered glass panel has been installed. The side addition has wood panels, each with six lights between brick piers. The windows on the rear addition are plain and have been infilled with glass brick.

8. Roof:

- a. Shape, covering: The gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Raked parapets on the gabled ends have terra cotta coping and stone brackets.
- b. Cornice: A decorative frieze across the front and back gable ends is formed by projecting headers surrounding recessed brick panels.

C. Description of Interior

The interior has been extensively remodeled several times. The original floor plans and interior fabric have been drastically modified. The building was constructed with indoor plumbing and steam heat. The present steam heating system relies on oil rather than on coal as it did earlier. Electricity was available to the post as early as 1890, although the original lighting may have been by gas.

- D. Site: The building faces east with the ridge of the roof running east-west. It is located on Lyster Road between the Ordnance Warehouse and housing for non-commissioned officers.

Prepared by Sally Kress Tompkins
Architectural Historian
Historic American Buildings
Survey
June, 1979

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) under the auspices of Interagency Archeological Services, Atlanta and funded by the U.S. Department of Army, Fort Sheridan, Illinois. It included a historical and architectural survey of the fort to provide the necessary data for implementation of the Fort Sheridan Historic District. Documentation was obtained on thirty-one buildings. The survey and documentation were accomplished by Sally Kress Tompkins, an architectural historian on the HABS staff, under the direction of John Poppeliers, Chief of HABS; Kenneth Anderson, Principal Architect; Carolyn Pitts, Principal Historian; and Allen Chambers, architectural historian and editor. The photographs were taken by William Kumpf of Architectural Camera, Chicago.